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USDA Gathers Information to Determine Financial Well-Being of Agriculture

Beginning in late December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will spend several months gathering information about farm economics and production practices from farmers and ranchers across Indiana, as the agency conducts the third and final phase of the 2019 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). ARMS is the only survey that measures the current financial well-being of Indiana producers and their households as a whole. The results of this survey will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect Indiana farms and farm families. In an effort to obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to approximately 37,000 producers nationwide, including nearly 1,500 in Indiana, between February and April. The survey asks producers to provide in-depth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics. In February,

the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) enumerators will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded to answer any questions they may have and help them fill out their questionnaires.

In addition to producing accurate information, NASS has strong safeguards in place to protect the confidentiality of all farmers who respond to its surveys. The agency will only publish data in an aggregate form only, ensuring the confidentiality of all responses and that no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The expense data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual *Farm Production Expenditures* report on July 31, 2020. That report and others are available at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information about the 2019 ARMS, visit www.ers.usda.gov/arms, or call the Great Lakes Regional Field Office at (800) 453-7501.

Chickens and Eggs

All layers in Indiana totaled 34.8 million during October, up 2 percent from a year ago. Egg production totaled 844 million eggs, up 1 percent from last year. The rate of lay during October was 2,423 eggs per 100 layers. All layers in

the U.S. totaled 397.0 million during October, up 1 percent from a year ago. There were 24.9 million turkey poults hatched in the U.S. in October, up 2 percent from the previous year.

Egg and Hatchery Production - Indiana and United States: October 2018 and 2019

Item	2018	2019	Percent Change
Indiana			
All layersthousand	34,286	34,835	2
Eggs per hundred layersnumber	2,430	2,423	0
Eggs producedmillion	833	844	1
U.S.			
All Layersthousand	392,492	396,892	1
Eggs per hundred layersnumber	2,387	2,422	1
Eggs producedmillion	9,370	9,613	3
Turkey Eggs in incubators, Nov 1thousand	30,418	27,055	-11
Turkey Poults hatched, Octthousand	24,295	24,872	2

October Agricultural Prices

Prices received by Indiana farmers for the full month of October 2019 are listed in the table below. Some Indiana highlights were: October corn, at \$4.01 per bushel, increased \$0.05 from September and increased \$0.57 from last year; October soybeans, at \$8.94 per bushel, increased \$0.34 from last month and increased \$0.30 from last year; October wheat, at \$5.28 per bushel, increased \$0.28 from September and increased \$0.88 from last year; October milk, at \$19.30 per cwt., increased \$0.50 from last month and increased \$2.10 from last year.

The October Prices Received Index 2011 Base (Agricultural Production), at 84.7, decreased 2.6 percent from September

and 0.6 percent from October 2018. At 81.2, the Crop Production Index was down 6.3 percent from last month but up 1.2 percent from the previous year. The Livestock Production Index, at 90.3, increased 3.4 percent from September but decreased 1.2 percent from October last year. Producers received lower prices during October for apples, market eggs, and strawberries but higher prices for cattle, lettuce, milk, and broilers. In addition to prices, the indexes are influenced by the volume change of commodities producers market. In October, there was decreased monthly movement of cattle, milk, broilers, and greenhouse & nursery and increased marketing for soybeans, corn, cotton, and calves.

Prices Received by Farmers¹ - Indiana and United States: October 2019 with Comparisons

Commodity	Indiana			United States		
	Oct 2018	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Oct 2018	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Corndollars/bu	3.44	3.96	4.01	3.42	3.80	3.84
Soybeansdollars/bu	8.64	8.60	8.94	8.59	8.35	8.60
Wheat, winterdollars/bu	4.40	5.00	5.28	5.22	4.20	4.36
Milk, alldollars/cwt	17.20	18.80	19.30	17.50	19.30	19.90

¹ Entire month weighted average price.

October Milk Production

Dairy herds in Indiana produced 330 million pounds of milk during October, down 2.9 percent from a year ago. The daily rate per cow was 62.8, up 0.5 pounds from October 2018. The dairy herd was estimated at 175,000 head for October, down 7,000 head from a year earlier. The average price of milk sold in October by Indiana dairy producers was \$19.30 per cwt., \$2.10 more than the price in October 2018.

Milk Cows, Production, and Price - Indiana: October 2018 and 2019

Item	2018	2019
Cows1,000 hd	182	175
Milk per cowlb/day	62.3	62.8
Productionmil lbs	340	330
Milk price, alldol/cwt	17.20	19.30
Fat testpct	3.80	3.91
Protein ¹pct	3.18	3.18

¹ FMO 33

Red Meat Production

Commercial red meat production in Indiana totaled 170.8 million pounds in October 2019, up 9.5 million pounds from October 2018.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 5.06 billion pounds in October, up 3 percent from the 4.90 billion pounds produced in October 2018.

Beef production, at 2.44 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.98 million head, up 1 percent from October 2018. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,360 pounds.

Veal production totaled 7.0 million pounds, 2 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 55,300 head, up 3 percent from October 2018. The average live weight was down 9 pounds from last year, at 222 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.61 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 12.3 million head, up 6 percent from October 2018. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.7 million pounds, was down 3 percent from October 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 205,400 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 124 pounds, down 7 pounds from October a year ago.

January to October 2019 commercial red meat production was 45.5 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2018. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

Commercial Slaughter - Indiana: October 2018 and 2019

Species	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Cattle	3.9	3.3	4,433	3,857	1,149	1,168
Calves	(D)	0.4	(D)	129	(D)	311
Hogs	771.6	794.9	211,688	224,630	274	283
Sheep	4.0	4.8	462	495	115	104

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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Thank You to our Data Providers

The USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region, Indiana Field Office and enumerator staff are pleased to provide you and the Indiana agricultural industry with current, reliable information as summarized in the following articles. This service is possible because you and other respondents provided us with timely survey responses. Thank you!